

THE CONSTITUTION OF OUR FATHERS

NO. 17.

THE
Carboro' Southerner.

Friday, : : : April 30, 1875

The Convention and the Legislative Restrictions Upon its Powers.

True to its habits and to its instincts, says the Wilmington Journal, the Radical party continues its oppo-

sition to any change in the iniquitous Constitution it forced upon us seven long weary years ago. From

April 1888, when in obedience to its mandates, Canby turned his bayonets from blood letting to Constitution making to April 1875 the Radical

party has persistently and doggedly opposed any and every change in the Constitution. During the whole of

these anxious eventful years no proposition, whether by Convention or by legislative enactment, has ever received the sanction of the Legislature with

contrary every such proposition has been bitterly and persistently opposed and so successfully too that it was

not until five years had passed that the first amendment could be gotten directly before the people. But from

that time the fate of the Radical party was sealed. Not only were the amendments then submitted to them ratified by the people, but at the

very next election two-thirds of the members they sent to the Legislature belonged to that political party which

had pledged itself from the imposition of the Constitution to destroy all of its obnoxious features at the ear

The Legislature thus constituted met in Raleigh and in due course of time passed by the regular consti-

time passed by the regular constitutional two thirds vote a bill calling a Convention to alter and amend the Constitution, and thus by the re-

demption of its oft repeated pledges to the Democratic party after a long and hotly contested fight—a fight that

lasted as long as the war of the Revolution—has brought the people of North Carolina to the point that marks the end of hope and the be-

But what is victory worth unless we secure its fruits? What would be

thought of a victorious army, that after handsomely winning a hotly contested battle, should permit its fruits

to slip from its grasp. The Democratic party is now in the position of an army that has just won a splendid victory, and the question is, whether

we shall enjoy the fruits of that victory, or whether we shall throw them away. We must not delude ourselves

into the belief that because we have beaten the Radical party so badly it no longer exists or that it is no longer

few hours before torn up a distillery.